

Message Text

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53

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 OES-06 NRC-05

SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 ACDA-07

IOE-00 /114 W

----- 009070

O R 161331Z AUG 76

FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7943

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USERDA HQ WASHDC

USERDA HQ GERMANTOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L IAEA VIENNA 6789

DEPARTMENT PASS IO/SCT

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: IAEA, AORG, SF

SUBJECT: FUTURE OF SOUTH AFRICA IN IAEA

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REF: A) STATE 202260; B) IAEA VIENNA 6457 (NOTAL)

1. REFTEL B REPEATED BY MISSION TO PARIS AND LONDON.

2. MISSION NOTES REFTEL A ADDRESSES ONLY POSSIBILITY OF EXPLSION OR SUSPENSION, WHILE REFTEL B POINTS OUT THAT EITHER ACTION, WHILE NOT RULED OUT, WILL BE DIFFICULT TO ACCOMPLISH AND WOULD BE OF AT LEAST QUESTIONABLE LEGALITY. BELIEVE MOST LIKELY ACTIONS HOSTILE TO SAG WOULD BE REFUSAL TO ACCEPT CREDENTIALS OF ITS DEL TO IAEA GENCONF IN RIO AND/OR REFUSAL TO ACCEPT CREDENTIALS OF SAG GOVERNOR IN NEW BOARD AT ITS INITIAL MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING GENCONF.

3. MOREOVER, WITHIN PAST SEVERAL DAYS, MISSION HAS PICKED UP FIRST INDICATIONS FROM INDIAN GOVERNOR, AMB. MEHTA, THAT FRENCH-SAG-IAEA SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT (NEGOTIATIONS OF WHICH WERE COMPLETED LAST WEEK, IN ORDER FOR ITS CONSIDERATION AT SEPTEMBER 17 MEETING OF IAEA BOARD GOVS) FACES DIFFICULTY. INFORMATION RECEIVED WAS THAT SOME (UNSPECIFIED) GOVERNORS WILL OPPOSE BOARD APPROVAL OF SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT BECAUSE OF OBJECTION TO SOUTH AFRICA OBTAINING POWER REACTORS. MEHTA AGREED THAT SUCH ACTION BY BOARD WOULD BE CONTRARUINE INTERESTS OF STATES WHICH ARE CONCERNED WITH SOUTH AFRICA'S NUCLEAR WEAPONS CAPABILITY, BUT INDICATED THAT ACTIONS BY SUCH STATES WOULD NOT NECESSARILY BE BASED UPON LOGIC. MISSION IS ATTEMPTING OBTAIN FURTHER INFO RE POSSIBLE OBJECTIONS IN BOARD AND WILL REPORT ANY FURTHER DETAILS SOONEST.

4. MEANWHILE, WE SUGGEST THAT APPROACHES TO FRENCH AND UK PER PARA 2 REFTEL A AND OUR APPROACHES PER PARAS 3 AND 4 REFTEL A, AS WELL AS DEMARCHES PLANNED PER PARA 1 REFTEL A, ADDRESS ENTIRE RANGE OF ACTIONS HOSTILE TO SAG, I.E., EXPLUSION OR SUSPENSION FROM MEMBERSHIP IN IAEA, REJECTION OF CREDENTIALS OF SAG DEL TO GEN CONF, REJECTION OF CREDENTIALS OF SAG GOVERNOR ON NEW BOARD GOVS, AND FAILURE OF BOARD TO APPROVE FRANCE-SAG-IAEA SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT. ALL FOREGOING ACTIONS BUT LAST WOULD PROBABLY RESULT IN SAG REFUSAL TO ENTER INTO FRANCE-SAG-IAEA SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT, IF THAT AGREEMENT IS APPROVED BY BOARD AT SEPT 17 MEETING. SUCH ACTION BY SAG WOULD NOT NECESSARILY, IN OUR VIEW, CAUSE FRANCE TO REFUSE FULFILLMENT OF CONTRACT TO SUPPLY POWER REACTORS TO SAG. WE BELIEVE FRANCE LIKELY PROCEED WITH SUPPLY OF REACTORS, ONCE BOARD HAD DECLINED OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE IAEA CONFIDENTIAL

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SAFEGUARDS APPLIED TO REACTORS. THUS, ANY OF OTHER HOSTILE ACTIONS NOTED ABOVE COULD HAVE NO PRACTICAL EFFECT ON SAFEGUARDS ON REACTORS AND COULD, IN ADDITION, CAUSE SAG TO TERMINATE EXISTING SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENTS WITH IAEA (INCLUDING US-SAG-IAEA AGREEMENT), AS WELL AS RULE OUT POSSIBILITY OF IAEA SAFEGUARDS ON FUTURE SAG ACTIVITIES SUCH AS ENRICHMENT PLANTS, TO WHICH POSSIBILITY SAG HAS ALLUDED. STONE

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